



St Mary's CE Primary School, N8



January 2017

HEADLINES

We got the term off to a very inspirational start with our staff training day on Talk4Writing. This approach to the teaching of writing from the very wonderful Pie Corbett has transformed the way we teach writing and from the early monitoring it has transformed the children's approaches and enjoyment of what can be a very tricky thing.

This half term is very short and we have lots to pack in. We had the official opening of our newly refurbished school by the Bishop of Edmonton and Councillor Elin Weston, Lead Member for Schools, Children and Families. We are so very fortunate to now have such stunning buildings and learning environments in which our children can learn and thrive.



When I Grow Up

Amongst various trips and activities planned for this half term we are holding a 'When I Grow Up' Careers Fair Day. Ostensibly for our children in the upper phase, we aim to have a range of stands and talks from people in various professions to give a taste of what kinds of jobs and careers there are in the world. We want our children to be inspired to perhaps think of a job they may not have thought of. The world is dominated so much by celebrity and internet stars children can become blind to the opportunities that could be available to them. If we, as a community, don't teach them and if we don't give them the opportunity to find out what is out there, they will not know. If you have a job or career you enjoy and love and feel you could share your experiences with our children, please get in touch.

Ms Busia is leading this project and is seeking potential 'exhibitors' and speakers. You can sign up on our [website](#).

Shout Out Zone

The children have been reporting and blogging about some of the great things they have been doing. You can read these on our website in the [Shout-Out Zone](#). It gives a lovely insight into some of the great things the children have been engaged in.

This half term we are continuing our work on fundamental British values. We have explored Democracy and Rule of Law. We will now be focusing on Individual Liberty, what this means and how our behaviour and attitudes affect this fundamental right. There are some fantastic resources on the [Go-Givers](#) website. This also links nicely to the work the children have been doing on E-Safety. We work continually with the children to safeguard themselves online and to be aware of their digital footprint. This should also be a regular discussion theme at home. You may limit your child's screen time but do you know what they are doing when they are online?

Sports Teams

Mr Palmer is leading our sports teams from strength to strength. Our Tag Rugby Team came 4th last week in a competition at the Royal Artillery Company. Competition was fierce and our team did us very proud.

We are always looking for new sponsors for our sports kit. If you or a business you know would like to sponsor a kit or part of one, please get in touch. It's lovely for our children to look and feel like winners as well as be winners.

Your PSA

The Parent School Association (PSA) is evolving. Following the success of the Christmas Fair and all the fantastic events last year, your PSA are looking to get even more involved in school life. All parents, carers and families are members and get involved in a thousand different ways. There are some very exciting projects and plans for the coming months and year. They really want as many of you to participate as possible. It's a great way to support all our children and families and make our school even better. Look out for dates and events on our website and try to attend PSA meetings when you can.

School Communication

We communicate with parents and carers in many different ways. The [website](#) - have you had a look at it recently? We are continually updating it. You can follow us on [Twitter @stmarysn8](#) and we have a [Facebook](#) page too. If you haven't, try to have a look as the children love sharing the things they have been getting up to.

You will have also seen our additional monthly newsletter called [#busydoinggoodthings](#) which further highlights all of the amazing activities your children get up to at St Mary's.

Fran Hargrove
Headteacher

Term Dates

JANUARY

Monday 30th - Y2 Sunshine Class
to London Transport Museum

Tuesday 31st - 9-10am ESOL Workshop
for Parents/Carers - RG

FEBRUARY

Thursday 2nd - 'When I Grow Up' Careers Day

Monday 6th - Reception Gosling Class to London Aquarium

Monday 6th - Y4 Ruby Class to London Zoo

Tuesday 7th - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 7th - 9-10am ESOL Workshop
for Parents/Carers – RG

Tuesday 7th - Reception Cygnets Class to London Aquarium

Tuesday 7th - Y4 Crimson Class to London Zoo

Wednesday 8th - Reception Ducklings Class
to London Aquarium

Friday 10th - Last Day of Half Term – usual finish time

Monday 13th - Half Term

Monday 20th – Children return to school

w/c Monday 20th - Y4 to Start Swimming Sessions

Monday 20th - Science Week

Tuesday 21st - 9-10am ESOL Workshop
for Parents/Carers – RG

Wednesday 22nd - Science Museum visit to school

Thursday 23rd - Y2 Sunshine Class Assembly

Friday 24th – Y2 Marigold Class Assembly

Friday 24th – Y4 Scarlet Class to London Zoo

Friday 24th – Disco @ RG 6.30-8pm

Monday 27th – Book Week

Tuesday 28th - 9-10am ESOL Workshop
for Parents/Carers – RG

Attendance and Punctuality



Class with the best attendance for this term is:
Marigold Class with 96.55%

Class with the best punctuality is:
Cygnets Class

Please could parents/carers be aware that taking children out of class or arriving late is very disruptive. Please try to avoid appointments during term time.

Dinner Money

Dinner money for this half term is £64.80
Next half term is £72.00

Payment

Did you know that you can pay for Dinner Money, After School Club & Breakfast Club and Nursery fees online? Please ask at the office for details of how to log-on.

Please make sure that all payments are kept up to date. If you are experiencing difficulties, please do speak with the office.

World Book Day

This will be celebrated on Thursday 2nd March.



Start thinking about the costume your child would like to wear and which character they want to represent from their favourite book.

Child Illness



Please phone us on the first day that your child is absent, and on subsequent days, if the absence is prolonged. We need to know the reason for every absence as this is a legal requirement and we want to know that they are OK.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

The school has started to collect vouchers again so please collect them if you shop at Sainsbury's.